

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

2-1778

COUNTRY LAOS

REPORT NO. CS-311/02623-67

SUBJECT DEBRIEFING OF PATHET LAO RALLIERS WHO  
ESCAPED FROM PATHET LAO PRISON AT BAN  
SI KOUN IN XIENG KHOUANG PROVINCE

DATE DISTR. 28 FEBRUARY 1967

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REFERENCES 19 36 20 N

DATE OF INFO. 13 DECEMBER 1966 - 3 JANUARY 1967 EXCEPT AS STATED

PLACE &amp; DATE ACQ. (LAOS, VIENTIANE (4 FEBRUARY 1967))

BAN SI KOUN

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

1. [REDACTED] STATED THAT AT THE TIME OF HIS ESCAPE FROM THE PRISON AT SI KOUN THERE WERE 40 PL GUARDS AND 30 PRISONERS. SOME OF THE PRISONERS WERE VILLAGERS WHO HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF AIDING THE LAO ARMED FORCES OR WHO HAD REFUSED TO COOPERATE WITH THE PL. [REDACTED] KNEW OF TWO PRISONERS WHO HAD BEEN KILLED FOR PLANNING AN ESCAPE. [REDACTED] ESCAPED WHILE WORKING OUTSIDE THE PRISON.
2. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] THERE WERE NO THAIS OR AMERICANS IN THE PRISON AT SI KOUN.
3. AFTER [REDACTED] ESCAPED, HE WALKED EAST ON ROUTES 71 AND 7 TO BAN BAN (UG 4971) WHERE HE AND TWO OTHER ESCAPEES WHO WERE WITH HIM RAIDED A PL STORAGE DEPOT TO OBTAIN AMMUNITION FOR THE WEAPON [REDACTED] HAD TAKEN FROM A PRISON GUARD. CHASED BY ABOUT A PLATOON OF NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVNA) TROOPS, [REDACTED] AND THE OTHER ESCAPEES FLED ALONG ROUTE 7 TO THE NAM TIEN BRIDGE (UG 6166), THEN LEFT THE ROAD AND HEADED SOUTH. AT BAN KO LIENG (UG 6364) THE NVNA TROOPS AND THE ESCAPEES ENGAGED IN A FIRE FIGHT. THREE NVNA TROOPS AND ONE OF THE ESCAPEES WERE KILLED. [REDACTED] AND THE THIRD ESCAPEE GOT AWAY BUT THE NVNA TROOPS CONTINUED TO TRACK THEM. AT [REDACTED] VILLAGERS HID AND FED THEM EVEN AFTER THE NVNA TROOPS HAD OFFERED VILLAGER 50,000 KIP FOR THEIR APPREHENSION. THREE DAYS AFTER THE NVNA TROOPS LEFT [REDACTED] THE VILLAGERS PROVIDED A GUIDE WHO TOOK THE TWO TO [REDACTED] (UNLOCATED). THE VILLAGE CHIEF OF [REDACTED] SENT THEM WITH GUIDES TO SAN TIAU.

STATE #	DIA	ARMY #	NAVY	AIR #	NSA	AID
CINCPAC #	ARPAC #	PACAF #	FACTLT #			

(Note: Field distribution indicated by "X")

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4. [REDACTED] SAID THAT AFTER ESCAPING FROM PRISON HE PLANNED TO RETURN TO HIS NATIVE VILLAGE, [REDACTED] HE DID NOT KNOW THE WAY, HOWEVER, SO WENT ALONG ROUTE 7 HOPING TO FIND SOMEONE WHO COULD HELP HIM. HE HAD NO INTENTION OF RALLYING TO LAO GOVERNMENT TROOPS BECAUSE HE THOUGHT THAT IF HE DID THEY WOULD SHOOT HIM. HIS PURSUIT BY THE NVNA TROOPS HAD FORCED HIM INTO GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED TERRITORY AND VILLAGERS HAD HELPED HIM ELUDE THE NVNA TROOPS, BUT IT WAS NOT UNTIL THE VILLAGE CHIEF AT [REDACTED] PERSUADED HIM HE WOULD NOT BE HARMED, THAT HE DECIDED TO GIVE HIMSELF UP TO GOVERNMENT FORCES.